

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 12333 160909Z

17

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 SAM-01 OES-06

SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 FEA-01 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 DOTE-00 CG-00 /105 W

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O 160845Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1606

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 12333

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, EFIN, ID, JA, US

SUBJECT: INDONESIA-JAPAN LNG TRANSPORTATION

1. ACCORDING TO GEORGE BENSON, NO MEETINGS WITH JAPANESE WERE HELD TODAY, AUGUST 16, ON LNG TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT. INSTEAD WIJARSO MET WITH HUFFCO/MOBIL ADVISORS AND WILSON OF BURMAH TANKERS. FIRST MEETING WITH JAPANESE IS SCHEDULED FOR 3 P.M. TOMORROW, AUGUST 17. WILSON REPORTEDLY TOLD WIJARSO AT TODAY'S MEETING THAT LEWIS HAS REFUSED TO LOWER FREIGHT RATE BELOW \$.367 PER MBTU AND CONTINUES TO INSIST MARAD GUARANTEES ARE ESSENTIAL TO THE DEAL. BENSON SAID THIS REPORT BITTERLY DISAPPOINTED WIJARSO WHO HAD HOPED GD WOULD SHOW SOME FLEXIBILITY.

2. PERTAMINA TEAM IS HARD AT WORK PREPARING DETAILED ANALYSES FOR TOMORROW'S MEETING, DURING WHICH THEY HOPE TO

A) "EXPLAIN IN LAYMAN'S TERMS" THAT ABS/COAST GUARD CERTIFICATIONS REPRESENT REAL PROGRESS IN SPHERE CONSTRUCTION; AND B) THROW DOUBT ON FEASIBILITY

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PAGE 02 TOKYO 12333 160909Z

OF GOTAAS-LARSEN AND LEIF HOEGH FREIGHT CHARGE OFFERS.

BENSON SAID WIJARSO STILL CONSIDERS SOME SIGN OF GD FLEXIBILITY ESSENTIAL TO NEGOTIATION'S OUTCOME. WIJARSO WOULD LIKE, BENSON, SAID, LES EDMOND TO GIVE LEWIS A CALL TO URGE HIM TO RECONSIDER BEFORE THE 3 P.M. MEETING AUGUST 17.

3. BENSON UNDERSTANDS THAT IN A SEPARATE MEETING, VALIOTIS TOLD TIRTO THAT THE ABS AND COAST GUARD INSPECTORS ARE MOVING TOO SLOWLY; BUT IF THE INSPECTORS DON'T SLOW UP PROGRESS, THE FIRST SPHERE WILL BE READY FOR TESTING BY THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF SEPTEMBER. SHOESMITH

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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